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SIR SAMUEL W. BAKER.

Sir Samuel White Baker, M.A., F.R.G.S., died on the 30th of December, 1893, at Newton Abbot, Devonshire.

He was born in London, June 8, 1821, and was educated there and in Germany.

In 1847 he founded a colony at Newera Ellia, in Ceylon, and resided there for eight years. In 1855 he engaged in the organization of the first railway in Turkey; and six years later set out with his wife, from Cairo, on an expedition to discover the source of the Nile. He spent a year in Abyssinia in the exploration of the Blue Nile; and in June, 1862, descended to Khartum, where he organized a party to explore the White Nile. The start was made in December and in the following February, at Gondokoro, Mr. Baker met Speke and Grant, who had come from the Victoria Nyanza. He supplied them with boats for the voyage to Khartum, and continued his own journey by land. On the 14th of March, 1864, nearly a year after leaving Gondokoro, he reached Mvutan Nzige, the lake to which he gave the name of Albert Nyanza.

He navigated the lake and then turned his face homeward, but did not reach Gondokoro until March 23, 1865. For this exploration the Royal Geographical Society awarded to him its Victoria gold medal, and on his return to England in 1866 he was created M.A. of the University of Cambridge, and was knighted.

In 1869 he took command of an Egyptian expedition sent to Central Africa, not so much for exploration as for the conquest and organization of all the countries bordering on the Nile. In this work he was en-

gaged for four years. He visited Cyprus after it became a British possession, and travelled in various countries of Asia and America. His writings on Ceylon, the Albert Nyanza, the Nile Tributaries, Ismailia, and others hold their place in the literature of travel.

Sir Samuel was an Honorary member of the Geographical Societies of Paris and Berlin, and of the Italian and the American Geographical Societies; and the Paris Society had honoured him with its Grande Médaille d'Or.